

President Xi Jinping
President of the People's Republic of China
Zhongnanhai
Xichang'anjie
Xichengqu, Beijing Shi 100017
People's Republic of China

Dear President Xi,

Zhang Zhan typifies the courage of investigative journalists who speak truth to power. Citizen journalists like her were the only source of uncensored, independent, and first-hand information about the coronavirus outbreak, publishing reports on social media and the internet despite constant harassment and repression.

Yet, instead of being praised, Zhang Zhan received four years' imprisonment for daring to report what she saw.

If the Chinese authorities are serious about combating Covid-19 and preventing similar outbreaks from happening again, they must stop censorship and respect freedom of expression – free Zhang Zhan immediately and unconditionally.

Yours sincerely,